

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Governing Board Members

**FROM:** Kenneth G. Ammon, P.E., Deputy Executive Director *KS for KGA*  
Everglades Restoration and Capital Projects

**DATE:** May 3, 2010

**SUBJECT:** C-111 Spreader Canal Phase 1 Soil, Water, and Groundwater Monitoring for Planned S-18C Water Level Increases (Contract Number 460002096)

**Background:** On November 13, 2009, the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board approved a non-binding letter of support for the C-111 Spreader Canal Western Project Final Integrated Project Implementation Report (PIR) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) issued a Clean Water Act, Section 404 permit for the project on October 14, 2009. Special Condition 7 of the permit requires the District to "conduct hydrometeorological ... monitoring as identified in the Draft Project Monitoring Plan, Annex E of the July 2009 final EIS..." This agreement implements one of the monitoring elements described in Annex E of the draft PIR, specifically, the development of soil water retention curves by the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) and the correlation of soil moisture data to groundwater levels and canal stages.

**How this helps meet the District's 10-Year Strategic Plan:** This agreement implements monitoring required by permit for the C-111 Spreader Canal Phase 1 project which is included in the 2009 Strategic Plan for the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan Program.

**Funding Source:** This is a 2-year 5-month cooperative agreement and is a waiver of competition for \$239,168, of which \$86,406 in dedicated funds (Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan Fund) are budgeted, and the remainder is subject to Governing Board approval of the FY11-12 budgets. IFAS will provide a cost share in the form of in-kind service contributions for personnel costs totaling \$40,437.

**This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography:** The agreement will be managed by the Restoration Sciences Department to fulfill the requirements of the 404 permit. The monitoring will be located east of the Frog Pond and Aerojet Canal Phase 1 projects currently under construction.

**What concerns could this Board item raise?** IFAS is specifically designated as the organization to conduct this work in the PIR, and by reference, in the 404 permit. The work is required to address concerns from agricultural interests in the affected basin that changes in operations resulting in higher water levels in nearby canals will not adversely impact agricultural production in adjacent fields.

**Why should the Governing Board approve this item?** The monitoring done under this agreement is required by the Phase 1 project permit. Operation of the project cannot begin without at least one year of baseline information. Project completion is expected in summer 2011.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at ext. 6502.

KGA/rsh

Attachments – Resolution, Map